

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 08681 281603 Z

45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTP-02 FCC-03

INR-09 NSAE-00 OC-06 RSC-01 COME-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 MC-02

ACDA-19 RSR-01 DOTE-00 CG-00 FMC-04 /138 W

----- 043930

R 281508 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8719

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 8681

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, TSPA, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH PRESS CRITICISM COMSAT MARITIME SATELLITE PROJECT

1. SUMMARY: L' EXPRESS SEES COMSAT DEVELOPMENT MARITIME SATELLITE FOR NAVY AS RENEWED EVIDENCE US DESIRE RETAIN MONOPOLY SPACE TELECOMMUNICATIONS FIELD. ESRO COUNCIL HEAD LEVY CONCERNED AT BEING MISQUOTED OUT OF CONTEST BY L' EXPRESS. ACTION REQUESTED: BACKGROUND RE COMSAT CONTRACT FOR NAVY AND POSSIBLE IMPACT IMCO PROJECT.

2. FRENCH WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE L' EXPRESS IN MARCH 26 ISSUE CARRIES ARTICLE STRONGLY CRITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT COMSAT CONSTRUCTION TELECOMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE FOR US NAVY AND EVENTUALLY COMMERCIAL MARITIME USE. TIMING OF COMSAT CONTRACT JUST PRIOR IMCO MEETING LONDON TO DISCUSS MARSAT READ AS INTENDED HEAD OFF IMCO EXERCISE AND IMPLANT FAIT ACCOMPLI US MONOPOLY MARITIME SATELLITE FIELD. L' EXPRESS SEES PARALLEL WITH HISTORY AEROSAT PROJECT, AND NOTES THAT " AS IF BY CHANCE" COMSAT IS NOW AMONG FRONTRUNNERS FOR AEROSAT PROJECT AFTER FOUR YEARS OF " DILATORY MANEUVERING" BY US (L' EXPRESS NOTES IN PASSING THAT INTEREST IN AEROSAT BY AIRLINES HAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 08681 281603 Z

SINCE DECLINED DUE TIGHTER SITUATION AIRLINE REVENUE).

3. L' EXPRESS ARTICLE PEGGED ON SPEECH MADE BY LEVY, HEAD
OF ESRO COUNCIL, IN WTUTE AND IS BUSILY WORKING ON IMPORTANT
RESEARCH
PAPERS FOR CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF CC.

3. THE WHOLE MATTER HAS BEEN RECENTLY REVIEWED AT HIGH
LEVEL IN MOSCOW AND IT SEEMS VERY DOUBTFUL, VAKHRUSCHEV
CONCLUDED RATHER SADLY, THAT SKOROV CAN BE RELEASED.

4. WARVARIV MADE APPOINTMENT TO SEE ADG HOGGART MORNING
MARCH 30 TO FIND OUT SECRETARIAT PLANS TO RESOLVE IMPASSE
IN THIS MATTER AND WILL REPORT ON OPTIONS OPEN TO US IN LIGHT
OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS.

AGDS - DEC 31, 1973

IRWIN

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS08681
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730343/aaaainan.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Aug-2001 by maustmc>; APPROVED <16-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980113
Subject: FRENCH PRESS CRITICISM COMSAT MARITIME SATELLITE PROJECT
TAGS: ETEL, TSPA, FR
To: EUR
LONDON
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005